

## The Florida House of Representatives

For Immediate Release:

Thursday, April 21, 2011

**Contact:** 

Lyndsey Cruley, (850) 487-8148

## Statement by Representative Seth McKeel on CS/CS/HB 1355 Passing the Florida House of Representatives

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – Representative Seth McKeel (R-Lakeland), chair of the House State Affairs Committee, today released the following statement regarding CS/CS/HB 1355 passing the Florida House of Representatives.

"I applaud Representative Baxley for sponsoring this critical piece of legislation. This bill will restore credibility to Florida's election process by ensuring an accountable and transparent process that protects the voting rights of our state's citizens, while significantly reducing the potential for voter fraud.

"It is paramount that we preserve the integrity of our elections and that the Floridians going to the polls are confident that we have an elections system that is both fair and representative of our state's electorate, and with the implementation of this bill we do just that.

"This legislation also serves to address the important issue of the Presidential Preference Primary. As the 4th most populous state, the largest swing state, and arguably the most culturally and economically diverse state in the nation, it is important that Florida be a key player in the presidential primary process. The provision contained in this bill represents a long-term structural change that gives Florida leaders flexibility when selecting a primary date, thereby guaranteeing that Florida is part of the national conversation and plays an integral role in the selection of presidential nominees."

###